

VIRGINIA PRESSLER, M.D.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII
EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON AGING
NO. 1 CAPITOL DISTRICT
250 SOUTH HOTEL STREET, SUITE 406
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-2831
eo@doh.hawaii.gov

Testimony COMMENTING on SB964
RELATING TO AGING

REPRESENTATIVE DELLA AU BELATTI, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
REPRESENTATIVE DEE MORIKAWA, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

Hearing Date: March 18, 2015, 8:30am Room Number: 329

1 **Office Testimony:** The Executive Office on Aging (EOA), an attached agency supports this
2 measure, provided that its enactment does not reduce or replace priorities within the
3 Administration's biennial budget request.

4 **Fiscal Implications:** This measure appropriates funds for FY16 for the following:

- 5 1. The Kupuna Care Program and the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC);
- 6 2. The Alzheimer's disease and Related Dementia services coordinator;
- 7 3. Fall Prevention and Early Detection;
- 8 4. Healthy Aging Partnership (HAP) Program; and
- 9 5. Alzheimer's disease and related dementia public awareness campaign.

10 **Purpose and Justification:** EOA notes that two of the appropriations in this bill are priorities of
11 the Ige Administration. These priorities include funding for the continued development of the
12 ADRCs statewide, and (2) an increase in EOA's base budget for Kupuna Care.

13 Regarding the funding of Falls Prevention and Early Detection, Healthy Aging Partnership
14 Program and the Alzheimer's disease and related Dementia public awareness campaign, these
15 are not part of the Governor's budget request. Should there be a surplus of funds available for

1 these measures; we would be supportive as we agree with the concept of this initiative as it is
2 consistent with EOA's goals and objectives. If the Legislature deems these programs necessary,
3 EOA respectfully requests that the Legislature provide the appropriate resources, rather than
4 supplant existing resources, for this proposal.

5 Additionally, we would like to point out that there is a typographical error on page 4, line 8.
6 The current bill reads an amount of \$1,200,000 and should instead read \$102,000,000.

7 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



STATE OF HAWAII
STATE COUNCIL
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
919 ALA MOANA BOULEVARD, ROOM 113
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543
March 18, 2015

The Honorable Della Au Belatti, Chair
House Committee on Health

and

The Honorable Dee Morikawa, Chair
House Committee on Human Services
Twenty-Eighth Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Representative Belatti, Representative Morikawa, and Members of the
Committees:

SUBJECT: SB 964 SD2– Relating to Aging

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD) **SUPPORTS THE INTENT OF SB 964 SD2, specifically Part I of the bill.** The purpose of Part I is to provide funding to support the State's Kupuna Care Program and Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC).

The Council was a member of the State ADRC Advisory Board back in April 2006, as a result of the Executive Office on Aging (EOA) receiving a Federal grant to embark on establishing a one-stop single entry point for older adults and persons with disabilities. Since then, the project has established a one-stop center on the Islands of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui, and is in the process of developing the Honolulu site. The Council has a Memorandum of Agreement between the Hawaii County Office of Aging, ADRC, which defines the partner roles and responsibilities related to services provided by ADRC and the Council.

As a systems advocacy agency responsible for statewide planning, coordination, monitoring, evaluation, and advocacy on behalf of individuals with DD and their families, we support a streamlined and user-friendly process for older adults and individuals with disabilities to receive information and be able to navigate the service system to access services and supports. Most of the focus thus far in establishing and implementing the ADRCs has been targeted to the aging population.

The Honorable Della Au Belatti
The Honorable Dee Morikawa
Page 2
March 18, 2015

The Council, as well as individuals with disabilities, advocates, public and private service providers, and other stakeholders, need to be involved with the planning and implementation of the ADRCs. We believe identifying and engaging in partnerships with all stakeholders will contribute to a seamless approach of accessing long-term services and supports in a manner that respects individual choice and desire, is person-centered, promotes independence and dignity, and provides individual control over the person's life.

The Council defers to EOA regarding the appropriation amount needed to support the ADRC.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony **supporting the intent of SB 964 SD2.**

Sincerely,



Waynette K.Y. Cabral, M.S.W.
Executive Administrator



Rosie Rowe
Chair

ALAN ARAKAWA
Mayor

JO-ANN T. RIDAO
Director
Housing & Human Concerns

JAN SHISHIDO
Deputy Director
Housing & Human Concerns



DEBORAH STONE-WALLS
Executive on Aging

PHONE (808) 270-7755

FAX (808) 270-7935

E-MAIL: mcoa.adrc@mauicounty.gov

COUNTY OF MAUI
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND HUMAN CONCERNS
MAUI COUNTY OFFICE ON AGING
AN AREA AGENCY ON AGING

J. WALTER CAMERON CENTER
95 MAHALANI STREET, ROOM 20
WAILUKU, HAWAII 96793

House Committee on Health

Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair
Representative Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair

SB 964, SD 2 (SSCR798) RELATING TO AGING

Testimony of Deborah Stone-Walls
Executive on Aging, Maui County Office on Aging (MCOA)

Wednesday, March 18, 2015; Conference Room 329; 8:30 am

MCOA's Position: Maui County Office on Aging (MCOA) is in **strong support** of SB 964, SD 2 (SSCR798) with particular attention to the Sections that appropriate funds for the Kupuna Care Program (KC), Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC), the Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia (ADRD) Services Coordinator, Fall Prevention and Early Detection Services for the Elderly, the Healthy Aging Partnership (HAP) Program, and the ADRD Public Awareness Campaign. MCOA supports appropriation for Kupuna Care and the statewide ADRC through the vehicle of the base budget, HB 500.

Purpose and Justification: Census projections indicate that the senior population in Hawaii will almost double between the period between 2010 and 2020 with the highest percentage increase occurring in those over the age of 85. In order to minimize the potential **financial strain** of the burgeoning aging population on the State, **proactive** efforts are required now. ***Keeping seniors healthy and at home is the most cost-effective manner*** to address the needs of one of our most valuable societal resources, and SB 964, SD2 (SSCR798) will ensure that state funds are utilized to provide assistance in the community at a much lesser financial drain than institutional services.

To promote and protect the well-being of the Older Americans in Maui County.

Kupuna Care: MCOA supports appropriation of at least \$9.9M in each year for FY 2015-2016 and FY 2016-2017. Each County Area Agency on Aging (AAA) oversees a variety of home and community-based service areas designed specifically to ensure that elders have the care they need in the least restrictive, and often most economical, setting as possible in order to assist Hawaii's kupuna to lead independent, meaningful, and dignified lives. These state funds are targeted to those who are frail and vulnerable and who do not have access to other services. AAAs have consistently succeeded in reaching the objective to prevent and/or delay the need for more restrictive levels of care. Moving the full amount of Kupuna Care appropriation to the base budget will allow for a more consistent contracting and service delivery system. When funds are released at varying times throughout the year, the process of planning for steady service delivery to frail elders is more difficult. AAAs must wait for the release of funds not appropriated through the base budget; therefore, service delivery cannot be planned in a reliable, steady manner. Knowing on July 1 of each year the exact amount of appropriation for these vital services will allow AAAs to more effectively plan for and meet the needs of eligible seniors.

Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC): MCOA, likewise for the reasons stated above, supports the appropriation of ADRC funding through the base budget, HB500. MCOA agrees with the Executive Office on Aging request for at least \$1,710,000 in FY 2015-FY 2016 and \$1,651,300 for FY 2016-FY 2017. Implemented on Maui on April 16, 2012, the ADRC has allowed MCOA to improve efficiency and effectiveness in working with elders and family caregivers across a broad spectrum of functional abilities and financial standing. The ADRC is designed to serve as a highly visible and trusted resource agency where people with disabilities of all ages can find information on the full range of long-term support options and can access a single point of entry to public long-term support programs and benefits. Benefits of the ADRC include but are not limited to:

- Efficient Screening and Referral: The HI ADRC Intake process provides a concise indication of individual functional needs supports as well as personal resources available to assist in meeting functional needs.

- Better care for seniors and ease of access for family caregivers: The ADRC is designed to serve as a highly visible and trusted resource agency where people with disabilities of all ages can find information on the full range of long-term support options and can access a single point of entry to public long-term support programs and benefits.
- Comprehensive **individualized** interventions: The HI ADRC Assessment Tool provides in-depth information regarding individual circumstances, needs, and appropriate interventions in twenty-seven (27) Clinical Assessment Protocols (CAPS). When a CAP is “triggered,” there is a clear indication not only that assistance is likely needed, but also **what type of intervention is most appropriate**. For instance, if the Falls CAP is triggered, MCOA staff can determine the likely reason for the risk for a fall and speak with the elder and/or family member regarding appropriate interventions. If the risk of fall is most likely due to poor lighting, for instance, a plan to increase light in poorly illuminated areas would result. The most dramatic use of the CAP information to date at MCOA occurred in FY 2014. MCOA partnered with the University of Hawaii—Maui Campus School of Nursing to conduct an in-depth review of all 202 individuals who had triggered at moderate to high risk of Falls. The review resulted in the identification of 85 seniors who were most likely at risk to fall due to a particular medication or a combination of medications. Prior to the ADRC tool implementation, MCOA knew that seniors in general were at risk for falls, but we had no way to clearly identify which senior risked a fall and what intervention would most likely result in reducing that risk of a fall. This type of data allows MCOA to better focus interventions. Rather than using public resources to focus on lighting or environmental factors, any risk for falls due to medication risks would best first be addressed by referring those seniors to their Primary Care Physician or to a Pharmacist for medication reconciliation. In short, the ADRC Assessment tools allows MCOA personnel to **effectively target interventions** resulting in a much **more efficient use of public funds**.

- Increased AAA capacity to target services to those most at need: Through the Intake and Assessment process, MCOA gathers functional and financial data that assists employees in effectively and efficiently identifying those individuals who demonstrate the greatest need. The HI ADRC Assessment process allows the identification of those individuals at the lowest income and highest risk. The Older Americans Act of 1965, as amended in 2006 tasks Area Agencies on Aging to target services to older individuals with: greatest economic need; greatest social need; those at risk for institutional placement; low-income minority older individuals; older individuals with limited English proficiency; and older individuals residing in rural areas. The ADRC tools allow us to easily comply with this federal requirement and thereby utilize public funds in the most efficient manner.
- Ease of access to Quality Improvement Information: Through the ADRC information system, MCOA now has a means to track the actual success of services in helping seniors remain at home. For example, the Assessment tool identifies those individuals who have a CAPS trigger for Institutional Risk. AAAs using the ADRC system can now quantify the number of individuals who continue to live in the community through support of home and community-based services. This ability to objectively quantify the effectiveness of service delivery in order to ensure the best use of public funds has not been present in Hawaii previously.

Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders (ADRD) Coordinator: The increasing numbers of the aging population means that the incidence of Alzheimer's disease and related disorders will also rise. In order to effectively plan and implement statewide services to seniors and caregivers, coordination at the state level is necessary to avoid duplication and to maximize resources. By removing the requirement for the Executive Office on Aging to hire an ADRD Coordinator, EOA will have increased flexibility to contract a qualified Coordinator.

Falls Prevention and Early Detection: MCOA supports the statewide approach to not only reduce the impact of falls on individuals and the community as a whole but to also

work towards increasing the emphasis on prevention and early detection. This issue is costly not only to seniors in terms of overall health status, but to our society.

Healthy Aging Program (HAP): MCOA supports appropriation for the statewide HAP in the amount of at least \$476,722 for each fiscal year of FY 2015-2016 and FY 2016-2017. MCOA assists seniors and individuals over the age of 55 to improve overall health through two evidence-based programs—Better Choices, Better Health (using Stanford’s Chronic Disease Self-Management—CDSMP—and Diabetes Self-Management—DSMP—Programs) and EnhanceFitness™ (EF). Because our population is aging rapidly and funding amounts for home and community-based services cannot keep pace with this increase, MCOA believes that efforts to improve overall health of seniors and their family caregivers is paramount to ensuring independence and dignity. In Maui County, Better Choices, Better Health (BCBH) and EF assisted over 400 seniors and individuals over the age of 55 to improve overall health in FY14. Over 350 people engaged in evidence-based exercise programs through EF since the inception of this program on Maui. Successful implementation of these programs will eventually lead to MCOA’s ability to directly bill Medicare for each participant, thereby lessening the State and County burden to provide these important interventions. Funding for the HAP appropriated by this bill will support direct services to seniors statewide that have been proven to improve health, increase self-management of chronic illness, increase strength and flexibility, and generally assist seniors in living at home in a more healthy manner. While we cannot ignore those who need assistance with the basic functions of daily living, we must also work diligently to assist our aging citizens and their family caregivers to live as healthily as possible for as long as possible in the most cost effective manner as possible.

ADRD Public Awareness Campaign: MCOA believes a coordinated, statewide effort to highlight the importance of preparedness with regard to ADRD is critical. As the population increases, the incidence of ADRD will increase. Early detection and accurate diagnosis will only occur to the extent to which the public is aware of this critical health issue.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony regarding this measure.



March 18, 2015

House Committee on Health
Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair

House Committee on Human Services
Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair

Re: **SB 964 S.D. 2, RELATING TO AGING**

Chair Belatti, Chair Morikawa and members of the committee:

Introduction

AARP is a membership organization of people fifty and over with nearly 150,000 members in Hawaii alone. AARP advocates for issues that matter to Hawaii families, including the high cost of long-term care; access to affordable, quality health care for all generations; providing the tools needed to save for retirement; and serving as a reliable information source on issues critical to people over the age of fifty.

AARP Hawaii strongly supports SB 964 S.D. 2, Relating to Aging, but recommends amendments.

We are submitting this testimony specifically to support the increase in funding for the Kupuna Care program reflected in section 2 of the bill.

Specifically, we respectfully request:

- (1) That this committee restore the \$5,100,000 in yearly supplemental funding for Kupuna Care that was originally provided for in SB 964; and
- (2) That this supplemental amount be incorporated into to the base budget of the Kupuna Care program, rather than just adding it a separate supplemental appropriation.

We suggest a 10% increase in funding to be incorporated into the base budget

Since 2002 the base funding for Kupuna Care has stayed flat at approximately \$4.8 million while demand for long-term care services continued to grow. In past years, the legislature has added additional supplemental appropriations. Since 2012 these supplemental appropriations have been approximately \$4.2 million per year. As a result, funding for Kupuna Care for the past two to three years has remained at approximately \$9 million per year, through a mix of base budget

and supplemental appropriations. In other words, biennium budgeting for the Kupuna Care in recent years has looked something like this:

Past Biennium Budgeting

	Year 1	Year 2
Base Budget	\$4.8 million	\$4.8 million
Additional Supplemental One-Time Appropriations	\$4.2 million	\$4.2 million
Total	\$9 million	\$9 million

We recommend that the additional funding that has been given to Kupuna Care in recent years be increased from \$4.2 million to \$5.1 million and that amount be added to the Kupuna Care program's base budget. If adopted, this would change biennium budgeting for the Kupuna Care program to look like this:

Recommended Biennium Budgeting

	Year 1	Year 2
Base Budget	\$9.9 million	\$9.9 million

That would result in a modest 10% increase in overall funding for the program. Importantly, by shifting the additional monies from supplemental appropriations and into the base budget it would also provide for more stability and reliability in the program.

Adding the funds to the base budget will increase efficiencies

In order for the state and the Area Agencies on Aging ("AAAs") to most effectively manage public funds and serve older adults, they must be able to plan accordingly. Having the funds as a secured budget amount in the base budget will allow the state and the AAAs to do better advance planning, which in turn will allow them to enter into contracts for services and supports that will better serve both the agencies themselves as well as the seniors they are serving.

The need will only increase as the senior population continues to grow

From 2002 until now, however, the number of seniors ages 60 and over increased in Hawaii by approximately 70,000. Additionally, the population that the Kupuna Care program must serve has grown still larger since legislation enacted last year expanded eligibility for Kupuna Care to Medicaid recipients.

This program needs more resources to be as effective as it can be in helping Hawaii's rapidly growing population of seniors lead independent, meaningful, and dignified lives in their own homes and communities. Over a thirty-year period (1980-2010), the population of people ages

60 and over increased by approximately 139.8% while the total population increased by only 34.2%.¹ The population of residents ages 85 and over increased by 431.5% in that same thirty-year period.²

The additional funding we are requesting could serve hundreds of additional seniors beyond those who would be served with EOA's existing funding request

According to the Hawaii State Plan on Aging, there were 277,400 people in the 60 and over age bracket in 2010. The projection is that there will be 373,650 people in that same age bracket in 2020. That's an increase of 146,250 people. Keeping funding flat in light of that increase makes us fear that services provided under the program will not reach as many seniors as they should as that population continues to grow.

The Executive Office on Aging noted on its factsheet³ that the \$4.1 million it has requested would support either:

- 493 people, where those people are the most frail and vulnerable with three or more ADL dependencies and eligible for nursing home level of care; or
- 3,621 people, where these are the eligible individuals with at least two ADL dependencies and at risk of becoming the most frail and vulnerable segment of our population.

The additional 10% in funding we have requested will support an additional 115 people with three or more ADL dependencies or 834 people with at least two ADL dependencies, beyond those who would already be reached with EOA's existing funding request. In other words, this increased funding would support a new total of either:

- 608 people, where those people are the most frail and vulnerable with three or more ADL dependencies and eligible for nursing home level of care; or
- 4,455 people, where these are the eligible individuals with at least two ADL dependencies and at risk of becoming the most frail and vulnerable segment of our population.

That's a real, tangible difference. Each one of those people is a father, mother, grandparent, or spouse that needs help.

¹ Hawaii State Plan on Aging, October 11, 2011 – September 30, 2015, Executive Office on Aging.

² Id.

³ See Kupuna Care Fact sheet, revised 2/9/2015.

Conclusion

For these reasons, we respectfully request that you support this bill and restore funding under section 2 to \$5,100,000 for FY 2015-2016 and \$5,100,000 for FY 2016-2017, and include these sums in the program's base budget.



HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

RANDY PERREIRA, Executive Director • Tel: 808.543.0011 • Fax: 808.528.0922

The Twenty-Eight Legislature, State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
Committee on Health
Committee on Human Services

Testimony by
Hawaii Government Employees Association
March 18, 2015

S.B. 964, S.D. 2 – RELATING TO AGING

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO supports the general purpose and intent of S.B. 964, S.D. 2; however, we cannot support the section of the legislation that exempts the coordinator position from civil service and collective bargaining. We fully recognize the importance of Kupuna Care, protecting our seniors from falls, and establishing an Alzheimer's disease and related dementia services coordinator position. These important public health initiatives can make a significant difference in protecting our aging community and helping to reduce health care costs.

Excluding the Alzheimer's disease coordinator position from civil service and collective bargaining, as proposed, makes the coordinator an appointed position. These types of positions (exempt excluded) do not have the same rights and benefits as civil service employees and there is no compelling reason to make this position a political appointee.

Therefore, we do not believe there is any justification to change this statutory provision in Section 349-3.2, HRS. There are already far too many exempt employees in the State Executive Branch and such exemptions are inconsistent with Article XVI, Section 1 of the Hawaii State Constitution and Section 76-1, HRS, which state that positions should be within the civil service system. The Alzheimer's disease and related services coordinator position should remain subject to Chapters 76 and 89, HRS. Without these suggested changes we cannot support Part II of the bill.

We appreciate the opportunity to testify on S.B. 964, S.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Perreira
Executive Director

alzheimer's association®

ALOHA CHAPTER

1050 Ala Moana Blvd. Suite 2610, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814
Phone: 808.591.2771 Fax: 808.591.9071 www.alz.org/hawaii

March 13, 2015

Executive Director
Christine Payne

Hawaii County Office
1055 Kino'ole St., Suite 103
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
808.981.2111 p
808.964.5238 f

Kauai County Office
4303 Rice Street, C2
Lihue, Hawaii 96766
808.245.3200 p
808.245.9900 f

Maui County Office
270 Ho'okahi Street, Suite 311
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793
808.242.8636 p
808.242.8639 f

Honorable Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair
Committee on Health
House of Representatives
Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 426
415 South Berentania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Honorable Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair
Committee on Human Services
House of Representatives
Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 442
415 South Berentania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: SB964 S.D.2 RELATING TO AGING

Dear Chairwoman Belatti, Chairwoman Morikawa and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 964 SD2. On behalf of the Alzheimer's Association, Aloha Chapter, I am pleased to extend our full support for SB 964 SD2, which provides funding for a Alzheimer's disease and related dementia services Coordinator position, a Public Awareness Campaign on Alzheimer's disease, the Kupuna Care Program, the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) and the Healthy Aging Partnership. We are in support of the bill in its entirety, especially in regards to the funding of a Alzheimer's disease and related dementia services coordinator and the Alzheimer's disease Public Awareness Campaign.

Alzheimer's disease is a growing epidemic and is now the nation's sixth leading cause of death. Here in Hawaii, more than 25,000 individuals live with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia. Furthermore, 1 in 3 kupuna die from the disease.

Despite the belief of many, Alzheimer's disease is not a normal part of aging. Memory deficits may occur as you grow older but memory loss that disrupts daily life is not a typical part of aging. It is usually contributed to some form of dementia. However, the lack of awareness on such, often results in minimal to no reporting of memory issues to one's physician. The lack of reporting these issues often lead to a failure to obtain an early and appropriate diagnosis.

According to data from the 2011 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), in Hawaii, 9.2% of those aged 60 and over report that they are experiencing confusion or memory loss. Furthermore, nearly 90% of those individuals have not talked to a health care professional about it –the highest among 22 states reporting the data.

Equally alarming is that as many as half of those who meet the diagnostic criteria for dementia have not received a diagnosis from a physician. Early detection and diagnosis are essential to providing the best medical care and outcomes for those at any stage of the

disease. Even without a way to cure or slow the progression of dementia, an early formal diagnosis offers the best opportunities for intervention and better outcomes.

Thus, a public awareness campaign on the warning signs and the importance of early detection is so critical as it will ensure that individuals will obtain an early and appropriate diagnosis.

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on this legislation and applaud your leadership in bringing it forward.

With best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "C Payne". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Christine Payne
Executive Director
Alzheimer's Association, Aloha Chapter

creagan1 - Dannah

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 7:05 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: tjdavies@juno.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB964 on Mar 18, 2015 08:30AM

SB964

Submitted on: 3/13/2015

Testimony for HLT/HUS on Mar 18, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
T.J. Davies	Kokua Council & AARP 60	Support	No

Comments: STRONGLY SUPPORT

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE)
Hawaii State Federation of Chapters
e-mail: JMatsuo368@hawaii.rr.com

LEGISLATIVE TESTIMONY
IN **SUPPORT** OF
SB 964, SD2, Relating to Aging

Hearing, Wednesday, March 18, 2015, 8:30 a.m., Room 329

Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair
Members, Committee on Health

Rep. Dee Morikawa, Chair
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair
Members, Committee on Human Services

Aloha

The National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE), Hawaii State Federation of Chapters, is in support of SB 964, SD2, Relating to Aging, that calls for appropriating funds to support the kupuna care program; an aging and disability resource center; the Alzheimer's disease and related dementia services coordinator; fall prevention and early detection services for the elderly; the healthy aging partnership program; and funds for an Alzheimer's disease and related dementia public awareness campaign. All of these programs reflect admirably on the value that this State places on our kupuna.

Especially, we are supportive of Part V, Section 10 of the bill that calls for appropriations to fund a public awareness campaign on Alzheimer's disease and related dementia. Since 1985, NARFE has partnered with the Alzheimer's Association in supporting research into the cause, prevention and treatment of Alzheimer's disease as well as a cure for Alzheimer's and related disorders. Public education on the need for research—our only tool for conquering the disease—also is an important focus.

Respectfully

Joyce Matsuo
1st Vice President/Legislation

About NARFE

The National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE) is dedicated to protecting and enhancing the earned pay, retirement and health care benefits of federal employees, retirees and their survivors. Founded in 1921, NARFE's legacy spans more than 90 years – working tirelessly in support of our members before Office of Personnel Management, members of Congress and the White House. The Hawaii State Federation of Chapters has 11 chapters that are located on Kauai, Hawaii, O'ahu and Maui.

To: House Committee on Health & House Committee on Human Services

Re: **SB 964, S.D. 2, Relating to Aging (Kupuna Care Funding)**

Date: Wednesday, March 18th at 8:30 am

Chair Chun Oakland Green and Committee members

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in Strong Support of SB 964, S.D. 2, Relating to Aging (Kupuna Care Funding). My name is T. J. Davies Jr. and I am 80 years old, retired, disabled and live in the Kakaako area. The passage of this bill is vital as:

The goal of Kupuna Care is to enable Hawaii seniors to lead independent, meaningful, and dignified lives in their own homes and communities.

From 2002 until now the base budget for Kupuna Care stayed relatively flat. Yet during that same time **the number of seniors ages 60+ increased in Hawaii by approximately 70,000**.

The one-time appropriations provided by the legislature to augment the base budget in recent years have been welcome and helpful, but we need to do more.

To give the program more stability and make it more effective, the additional funding requested should be incorporated into the program's base budget.

The population of seniors in Hawaii is skyrocketing and we can expect that more and more seniors will have need of the home and community based services that Kupuna Care provides. These are important and basic needs like hot meals, transportation, and personal care assistance.

Providing more seniors with these services is the reason for the \$5.1 million in additional funding reflected in the original bill. It will provide additional resources to this critical program that provides services for Hawaii's fastest growing group of residents.

I urge you to support Kupuna by voting yes on SB 964, S.D. 2.

T. J. DAVIES JR., Volunteer,
Kokua Council for Senior Citizens
HARA Legislative Committee
AARP Chapter 60, Waikiki
Kakaako (District 26 / Senate District 12)



Wednesday, March 18, 2015

Relating to Senate Bill 964 Senate Draft 2
Testifying in Support

Aloha, Chair Belatti, Chair Morikawa, Vice-Chair Creagan, Vice-Chair Kobayashi and Members of the House Committees on Health and Human Services,

The Democratic Party of Hawaii **supports SB 964 SD2 Relating to Aging** which appropriates funds for a variety of programs for older adults.

We know that our kupuna population is growing and we need to prepare to address their needs. According to the Executive Office on Aging, Hawaii's population who are 60 years and older will increase by over 60% by 2030. Additionally, by 2035, close to one in three individuals will be an older adult. We also know that one in every three seniors who die each year has Alzheimer's disease or related dementia. And annually, 85 seniors die, 1,960 are hospitalized and 8,700 are treated in emergency rooms as a result of falling.

The funds requested in this bill will help to keep our kupuna healthy so they can age in place. Funds for Kupuna Care and healthy aging partnership programs provide safety net services for older adults. The Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) serves as an important resource and referral tool for individuals, their families and their caregivers. The Alzheimer's disease and related dementia services coordinator and the fall prevention and early detection coordinator positions will enable the Department of Health to better serve our seniors in these areas. And the public awareness program for Alzheimer's disease and related dementia will help communicate the importance of early detection and accurate diagnosis for this disease.

At its 2014 Convention, the Democratic Party of Hawaii passed resolution HHS 2014-01 Urging Community Support for Our Kupuna which urged the state, county, private providers and individuals to work together to prepare for the needs of our aging population. This bill will allow us to accomplish that goal. We urge your support of SB 964 SD2.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,
The Legislation Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawaii

DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAII

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THE QUEEN'S HEALTH SYSTEMS

To: Chair Della Au Belatti
Vice Chair Richard P. Creagan
House Committee on Health

Chair Dee Morikawa
Vice Chair Bertrand Kobayashi
House Committee on Human Services

From: Paula Yoshioka
Senior Vice President
The Queen's Health Systems

Re: SB 964 SD 2, Relating to Aging
Hearing—March 18, 2015 at 8:30 AM

The Queen's Health Systems would like to provide strong support for SB 964, which would fund critical community-based programs that coordinate services for individuals who require post-acute care services.

Many of the programs and authorizations in this bill are important to helping our seniors age in place. We were heartened to see that this legislation included funding to help establish senior centers that can enable our kupuna to engage in fitness, recreation and wellness activities. At North Hawaii Community Hospital, which is part of QHS, seniors are invited to continue to use the gym equipment at the rehabilitation clinic after their recovery from an injury. Staff at the hospital can attest that the gym at the facility is likely the most attended gym in the area, and helps seniors to stay active.

We would, in particular, like to highlight our support for the funding included in this measure for the aging and disability resource centers (ADRCs). Since the passage of the *Affordable Care Act* in 2010, the health care system has focused on making sure patients and their primary care providers are able to navigate the continuum of care to get necessary services prior to and following an acute episode. Following this continuum of care, which ADRCs are a part of, allows seniors to avoid costly hospitalizations and to recover in the home, which is more cost-effective and comfortable for families.

ADRCs are crucial in the continuum of care because they help to connect patients with the services they need to age in place. For example, ADRCs can offer nutrition programs that help to keep seniors healthy, avoiding a costly acute episode. If a patient does have an acute episode, then ADRCs are critical partners with providers, patients and families in coordinating services that help patients recover in their homes.

We would ask for your strong support in funding post-acute care services for our seniors, especially through the ADRCs. Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

The mission of The Queen's Health Systems is to fulfill the intent of Queen Emma and King Kamehameha IV to provide in perpetuity quality health care services to improve the well-being of Native Hawaiians and all of the people of Hawai'i.



Wednesday, March 18, 2015 – 8:30 a.m.
Conference Room #329

House Committees on Health and Human Services

To: Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair, HLT Committee
Rep. Richard Creagan, MD, Vice Chair, HLT Committee

Rep. Dee Morikawa, Chair, HUS Committee
Rep. Bert Kobayashi, Vice Chair, HUS Committee

From: George Greene, President & CEO
Healthcare Association of Hawaii

Re: Testimony in Support
SB964 SD1 — Relating to Aging

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii's 160 member organizations include all of the acute care hospitals in Hawaii, all public and private skilled nursing facilities, all the Medicare-certified home health agencies, all hospices, all assisted living facilities, durable medical equipment suppliers and home infusion/pharmacies. Members also represent other healthcare providers from throughout the continuum including case management, air and ground ambulance, blood bank, dialysis, and more. In addition to providing quality care to all of Hawaii's residents, our members contribute significantly to Hawaii's economy by employing over 20,000 people statewide.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of SB964 SD1, which, among other things, appropriates funds for the Kupuna Care program and the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC).

ADRC has proven to be a valuable resource in streamlining access to long-term supports and services for our kupuna and the caregivers who often care for them. Providing them with additional funding in the amount of nearly \$3.4 million as part of the biennium budget would enable it to expand its reach further into the community.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB964 SD1.

Jody Mishan, Coordinator
Hawaii 2025: State Plan on Alzheimer's Disease & Related Dementias (ADRD)
P.O. Box 62304
Honolulu, Hawaii 96839

**Testimony in SUPPORT of SB 964, SD2
Relating to Aging
For House Committee on Health and House Committee on Human Services
Wednesday, March 18, 2015, 8:30 a.m., Conference Room 329**

To: The Honorable Representative Della Au Bellati, Chair
Committee on Health, and
Representative Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair

And to: The Honorable Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair
Committee on Human Services, and
Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

House of Representatives, The Twenty-Eighth Legislature, 2015
March 16, 2015

Dear Senators and Committee Members,

I am submitting testimony in support of SB 964, with a suggestion for a slight change of wording relating to Part II Section 4, calling for an Alzheimer's & Related Dementias (ADRD) coordinator.

Re: PART II, SECTION 4, AGING BILL

"There is established within the EOA an ADRD services coordinator to coordinate provision of public and private ADRD services."

Since 2012, I have been coordinating the process of *Hawaii 2025: State Plan on Alzheimer's Disease & Related Dementias*, now available online at www.hawaiiadrc.org (click on Resources). I was hired as a state temporary employee at Executive Office on Aging, and am now a state contractor with the responsibility to coordinate the state plan. Implementation of the state plan's recommendations is now the main focus in 2015, as well as creating an updated version of the plan with more detailed action steps, a logic model and evaluation plan. We have already started work in the community on some of the recommended objectives.

Other states have created permanent positions for specialists in ADRD that have been established in their aging offices to convene, encourage and facilitate statewide community collaboration, oversight and accountability for state plan recommendations.

Addressing this issue in Hawaii cannot be done without leadership and continued convening of and partnering with community stakeholders and sustained oversight and accountability for the state plan.

Due to the state plan process so far, important activities already taking place are: professional trainings for healthcare professionals on the importance of early diagnosis and accurate assessment of dementia; adapting curriculum in dementia-capability for government and service agencies statewide, including

Hawaii's ADRCs; creating materials for a statewide public awareness campaign on dementia; providing accessible and affordable legal services to those with dementia and their caregivers; increasing Hawaii dementia research and encouraging participation in clinical trials; integrating dementia into other state and county plans and activities; providing dementia-related trainings, presentations statewide, and sustaining a growing Hawaii Dementia Coalition.

As a public health issue, it's important to decrease the stigma of AD/DRD with public and professional training and awareness on the warning signs of dementia, and the risk factors for dementia. It's also crucial to educate the community on brain health. A cognitive module was added to the 2011 Hawaii Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS), and showed that 9.2% of those aged 60 and over report they are experiencing confusion or memory loss that is happening more often or is getting worse. Nearly 90% of them have not talked to a health care professional about it – the highest among 22 states reporting data.

There is much work to do and it involves: keeping together the growing Dementia Coalition; making Hawaii ADRCs, agencies and infrastructure dementia-capable; expanding public and professional trainings statewide; assuring financial and legal services for those affected; convening the Special Governor's Advisory Panel to oversee the state plan; convening special committees to focus on key issues in the state plan; expanding supports for unpaid dementia caregivers; tracking progress of the state plan and improving Hawaii dementia-related data collection; seeking continual public feedback on dementia issues; starting memory clinics in every county; decreasing stigma with an effective public awareness campaign; seeking funding for further implementation of the state plan and networking with national partners.

There is great momentum in Hawaii to implement the recommendations, as there is nationwide in other state plans and the National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease. The state plans and their implementation are a key part of the national strategy to achieve the goals in practice locally, so states are encouraged to include dementia in their state government structures.

Without a dementia coordinator within the EOA, the momentum that has been established would not continue. It's important that there be someone to coordinate meetings and provide leadership, encouragement, and accountability for state plan implementation with community-wide participation.

The increasing incidence of Alzheimer's and other dementias due to our aging population has made dementia a public health crisis worldwide. Alzheimer's is the 6th leading cause of death in the U.S., killing more than breast cancer and prostate cancer combined. Every 67 seconds someone in the U.S. develops the disease. 1 in 3 seniors dies with Alzheimer's or another dementia. It's now the most expensive disease in the nation.

Please support passage of SB 964 SD2. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Aloha,

Jody Mishan

TO: Committee on Health
Representative Della Au Belatti Chair
Representative Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair
Members of Committee on Health

Committee on Human Services
Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair
Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair
Members of Committee on Human Services

DATE: Thursday, March 18, 2015
PLACE: Conference Room 329
TIME: 8:30am
SUBJECT: Testimony in support of SB 964 SD 2 –Relating to Aging

Chair Belatti and Morikawa and Members of Committee on Health and Committee on Human Services;

Thank you for the opportunity to submit a written testimony in FULL AND STRONG
SUPPORT of SB 964 SD 2 – Relating to Aging.

As Administrator of Project Dana, a volunteer caregivers program serving Hawaii's older adults for 25years, I am in strong support of SB 964 SD 2 which promotes aging in place in Hawaii's community.

SB 964 SD 2 Relating to Aging: Funding for Kupuna Care program, Aging and Disability Resource Center, Alzheimer's disease and related dementia services coordinator, fall prevention and early detection services for the elderly, healthy aging programs, and Alzheimer's disease and related dementia public awareness campaign are necessary to allow older adults to live independently.

Please support SB 964 SD 2 – Relating to Aging.

Thank you very much.

Rose Nakamura
Project Dana



*Hawaii Alliance for Retired Americans, An Affiliate of the Alliance for Retired Americans
1953 South Beretania Street, Suite 5C, Honolulu, Hawaii 96826*

Testimony of Al Hamai in support of SB964, SD2, Relating to Aging

**Senate Committees on Health and Human Services
March 18, 2015, 8:30 a.m. Conference Room 329**

Chair Au Belatti and Chair Morikawa and Committee Members,

HARA strongly supports SB964, SD 2, which incorporates the Kupuna Legislative Caucus Package on aging, that includes many of the major legislative priorities of HARA and many other senior and aging advocacy organizations. SB964, SD2 provides funding for such critical programs as: the Kupuna Care Program; additional funding to implement the statewide Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) system for seniors; for fall prevention services; for supporting senior centers and the healthy aging partnership; and appropriating funds for the urgently needed Alzheimer's and related dementia public awareness campaign. All well proven programs that have met many needs of seniors and caregivers.

We urge your Committees on HLT and HUS to approve SB964, SD2.

Mahalo and Aloha.

HARA is a strong voice for Hawaii's retirees and seniors; a diverse community-based organization with national roots; a grassroots organizer, educator, and communicator; and a trusted source of information for decision-makers, with 21,000 members statewide. HARA is an affiliate of the Alliance for Retired Americans (ARA), a national advocate for seniors with 4 million members. For info on the ARA go to:
www.retiredamericans.org

HARA Affiliates: HGEA Retirees, HSTA-Retired, ILWU Retirees, UPW Retirees, AFT Retirees, Kokua Council, Hawaii Family Caregivers Coalition, Kupuna Education Center.

Committee on Health

Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair

Rep. Richard Creagan, Vice Chair

Committee on Human Services

Rep. Dee Morikawa, Chair

Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

Date: Wednesday, March 18, 2015

Time: 8:30 AM

Place: Conference Room 329

Aloha,

Please register my support for passage of SB 964 SD2. Especially for the appropriation for Fall Prevention and early detection that will reduce and prevent Falls among older adults.

As one of the "baby boomers", I realize that our aged population will draw heavily on Hawaii's resources. Fall injuries will cost our economy and the pocketbook and peace of mind of our population, young and old.

Increased education and the implementation of preventative measures can curb the "tsunami" of Fall injuries and fatalities.

Please support passage of SB 964 SD2.

Mahalo,

Mike Hirano
Home Safety and Fall Prevention Coordinator
Project Dana



CATHOLIC CHARITIES HAWAII

TO: Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair
Committee on Health

Rep. Dee Morikawa, Chair
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services

FROM: Diane M. Terada, Division Administrator

DATE: Wednesday, March 18, 2015 (8:30 a.m., Room 329)

RE: **IN SUPPORT of SB 964, SD2, Relating to Aging**

Catholic Charities Hawai'i (CCH) is a tax exempt, non-profit agency that has been providing supportive home and community based services to elders since 1973 and currently serves over 4,000 older persons each year.

CCH strongly supports SB 964, SD2, which will provide additional Kupuna Care funding and other needed services for older adults and their caregivers in the State of Hawai'i.

Catholic Charities Hawai'i is a current provider of Kupuna Care transportation services to help frail elders get to necessary medical, nutrition and other services. Through Kupuna Care, CCH Transportation also provides relief for caregivers, especially working caregivers who would otherwise have to take time off from work to provide transportation for their elderly relatives.

Kupuna Care services addresses the overall community goal of helping seniors remain independent in the community and prevent more costly institutional care – as well as supporting caregivers. Kupuna Care services provide a safety net for all kupuna and their caregivers who cannot afford to pay for in-home and community based services and are unable to receive these services through other means.

Catholic Charities Hawai'i supports additional Kupuna Care funding be added to the base budget of the Executive Office on Aging for each of fiscal years 2015 and 2016.

Catholic Charities Hawai'i asks for your support of SB 964, SD2. If I can provide any further information, please feel free to contact me at 808-527-4702 or via email at diane.terada@catholiccharitieshawaii.org. Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony.



Catholic
Charities
USA



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March 18, 2015

Committee on Health
Testimony on S.B. 961, SD2
Relating to Mental Health Treatment

March 18, 2015, 8:45 a.m.
Conference Room 329

STRONG SUPPORT

Dear Chair Della Au Belatti, Vice Chair Richard P. Creagan, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Diane C. Haar. I am a licensed attorney practicing in the State of Hawai'i. My practice is devoted to representing individuals with disabilities and their interests throughout the state. I brought the first case for Assisted Community Treatment (ACT), and regularly work with our mentally ill, homeless population. The less restrictive option to involuntary commitment, ACT could be a solution to breaking these individuals out of the cycle of incarceration, hospitals, and homelessness by teaching them how to access treatment that will allow them to live independently in our communities hopefully with significant improvement in their well-being.

I am strongly in favor of the proposed amendments to ACT. They are made to ensure these cases flow more smoothly through the Court for all participants, as well as to ensure the best interests of the individual with mental health concerns are met.

Specifically, the amendments ensure the individual at issue has access to legal representation, including the use of the Public Defender if appropriate, rather than possibly having to proceed alone in a court proceeding he or she may not understand. Second, the amendments provide the Court the discretion to appoint a Guardian ad Litem where it determines it necessary to adequately protect our most vulnerable citizens whose mental illness has rendered them incapable of protecting their own best interests, but who are equally without family or close friends willing to do so. Third, the amendments allow subsequent documents to be served on the individual with mental illness' legal counsel, rather than have this individual subject to the potentially terrifying experience of having legal paperwork repeatedly thrust upon him or her on the street by a stranger. The fourth and fifth amendments are intended only to clean up the statutory language where it was previously inconsistent and recognize most of these cases will be done by the offices of the Attorney General and the Public Defender in the Family Court thus allowing scheduling to take place in a timelier, more manageable manner in view of these bodies' already significant workload.

Your consideration of these amendments is greatly appreciated. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important matter.



Testimony of Phyllis Dendle
Director, Government Relations

Before:

The House Committee on Health
The Honorable Della Au Belatti, Chair
The Honorable Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair

The House Committee on Human Services
The Honorable Dee Morikawa, Chair
The Honorable Bertrand Kovayashi, Vice Chair

March 18, 2015
8:30 am
Conference Room 329

SB 964 SD2 RELATING TO AGING

Chairs Belatti and Morikawa and committee members, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on SB 964 SD2 which provides appropriations for programs for kupuna.

Kaiser Permanente Hawaii supports this bill.

Hawaii's elder population is growing faster than anywhere else in the United States. Complexity of the aging process coupled with its associated cost highlights the need to support programs designed to help our kupuna age safely and with dignity.

Falls, lack of transportation, caregiver burnout and isolation are among the leading issues contributing to the deterioration of our Kupuna. The consequences of these are unwanted visits to the emergency departments, hospitalization and/or institutionalization. These are often the last places our elders prefer to be.

In 2014, Kaiser Permanente began innovative collaborations with members of the Kupuna Care network along with the Fall Prevention Consortium. Prevention and early detection of medical and non-medical issues in the community are focal points for partnership in 2015 and beyond. Key to this is the crucial funding passage of SB964 SD2 provides.

Thank you for your consideration.

711 Kapiolani Blvd
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Telephone: 808-432-5210
Facsimile: 808-432-5906
Mobile: 808-754-7007
E-mail: phyllis.dendle@kp.org

TO: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair; Rep. Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES
Rep. Dee Morikawa, Chair; Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

FROM: Sarah Yuan, Ph.D.
Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs

HEARING: 8:30 am Wednesday, March 18, 2015
Conference Room 329, Hawaii State Capitol

SUBJECT: SB 964, SD2 (SSCR798) Relating to Aging

POSITION: **The Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs strongly supports SB 964.** This testimony focuses on Part I of the bill relating to Kupuna Care Program and the ADRC (Aging and Disabled Resource Centers).

RATIONALE:

The Policy Board for Elder Affairs has a statutory obligation to advocate on behalf of the senior citizens in Hawaii. While we advise the Executive Office on Aging (EOA), we do not speak on their behalf.

The Kupuna Care Program offers home-and-community based services for adults 60 years and older that require assistance. This program's services do not overlap with that of Medicaid and Medicare, but provide high-quality affordable at-home assistance that is essential in supporting elders that need to be cared for. This program contributes to preventing and reducing the need for costly facility-based nursing care. Based on DBEDT 2040 Series' projections, older adults (60+) will make up one fourth of Hawaii population by 2020, a 36% increase in population from 2010. The number of the oldest old (85+) is projected to triple from 2010 to 2040. This dramatic increase will come with a soaring demand for long-term care services as the oldest old population tend to have a higher disability rate and are more likely to be widowed and lack family caregiving resources. The PABEA strongly urges the Legislature to provide stable funding for Kupuna Care by increasing the EOA's base budget for the program from \$4.8 million to an approximate \$9 million per year.

The Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs) help individuals and their families to identify their long-term supports and service needs, understand their support options (including public and privately funded programs available to them), and develop and activate long-term support and service plans. They also improve the state county governments' abilities to manage resources and monitor program quality using centralized data collection and evaluation plan. The ADRCs play a critical role in improving access to services for the elderly and people with disabilities. The PABEA strongly supports the development of fully functioning ADRCs in all four counties; when an ADRC becomes fully functional, it will qualify for additional financial support from various federal programs such as Medicare, the Affordable Care Act, and Medicaid. For the additional fund requested in this bill, much of it will be used for the implementation of Honolulu County's new ADRC plan. The PABEA supports the appropriation of additional ADRC funding over the base budget.

We appreciate the opportunity to testify on this bill.



[COMMITTEE ON HEALTH](#)

Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair

Rep. Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair

[COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES](#)

Rep. Dee Morikawa, Chair

Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

DATE: Wednesday, March 18, 2015

TIME: 8:30 AM

PLACE: Conference Room 329

Dear Senators,

We are in strong support of SB 964 SD2. Particularly, we are in strong support of Part 3, a \$32,000 appropriation for fall prevention and early detection which will support the statewide approach to prevent and reduce the impact of falls among older adults.

Falls among older adults are a critical public health problem. The early detection is needed and specifically, the awareness and use of electronic alarm devices which notify emergency services that they have fallen and need assistance is imperative. Please support passage of SB 964 SD2.

Sincerely,

Christy Nishita

President

Hawaii Pacific Gerontological Society



PRESIDENT & CEO
Marian E. Tsuji

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1809 Bachelot Street
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Phone: 808-531-0555
Fax: 808-533-7264
www.lanakilapacific.org

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State of Hawaii
House Committee on Health
The Honorable Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair
The Honorable Representative Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair
House Committee on Human Services
The Honorable Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair
The Honorable Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair
Hawaii State Legislature

March 18, 2015; 8:30 am
Room 329

SB 964, SD2 Relating to Aging

Good morning, Chairs Belatti and Morikawa, and Members of the Health, and Human Services Committees,

Lanakila Pacific **strongly supports** SB 964, SD2, Relating to Aging to provide critically needed services for our most vulnerable elderly neighbors. Although our preference is that ongoing support be provided in the base budget, this measure provides essential supplemental funding for Kupuna Care services which are designed to prevent more costly care.

The Kupuna Care program funding is necessary because the need for services far exceeds current resources due to 13 years of flat funding that hasn't kept pace with inflation, let alone the spike in the elderly population. The base budget for Kupuna Care services of \$4.85 million has not been increased since 2002, while Hawaii's senior population has increased by 30% and the costs of living in Hawaii continue to rise. Supplemental funding is requested every year; however, this is not sustainable and should be part of the Executive Office on Aging's budget.

However, we are concerned about programmatic details in the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) program . While we are in support of this comprehensive package that provides grossly needed resources to address the growing needs of Hawaii's senior population, we are concerned that most of the focus has been targeted to the aging population. To ensure a seamless system of accessing services in a manner that respects individual choice and desires, the State Council on Developmental Disabilities, as well as individuals with disabilities, advocates, public and private service providers, and other stakeholders, need to be involved with the planning and implementation of the ADRCs.

Senate Committee on Human Services & Housing
March 18, 2015; 8:30 am
Page Two

As a Kupuna Care service provider, Lanakila Meals on Wheels serves more than 2,000 Hawaii seniors every day or more than 250,000 meals each year. Our average meal recipient is a woman of Asian or Pacific Island descent, 83 years old with an income of less than \$1,000 per month. Our staff and volunteers deliver much more than a nutritious meal, as they may be the only person that our Kupuna will spend time with each day.

Providing Kupuna Care Services, which enables seniors to stay in their homes and avoid costly institutionalization, can be the difference between \$170 for a month of home delivered meals vs. \$9,034 for a month of a semi-private room in a nursing facility.

While more long-term support is needed to meet the growing needs with one of the fastest growing senior populations and the longest life expectancy in the nation, this measure is a vital part of the solution as it will provide critically needed and more cost-effective services for our most isolated and vulnerable elderly neighbors. Aging network providers cannot meet the current and growing demand for services when faced by years of flat or reduced State and Federal funding.

We urge you to support Hawaii's Kupuna by supporting ongoing funding for Kupuna Care as it provides essential services for the most vulnerable senior citizens in Hawaii.

Respectfully submitted,

Marian E. Tsuji
President & CEO

Lyn Moku
Director of Lanakila Meals on Wheels



House Committee on Health

The Hon. Della Au Belatti, Chair

The Hon. Richard P. Creagan, Vice-Chair

House Committee on Human Services

The Hon. Dee Morikawa, Chair

The Hon. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice-Chair

Testimony on Senate Bill 964 SD 2

Relating to Aging

Submitted by Nani Medeiros, Public Affairs and Policy Director

March 18, 2015, 8:30 am, Room 329

The Hawaii Primary Care Association (HPCA), which represents the federally qualified community health centers in Hawaii, supports House Bill 964, providing needed funding for various programs designed to assist the aging population.

Elderly residents comprise the fastest growing segment of the population here in Hawaii. Among them, falls are the leading cause of fatal injuries and injury related hospitalizations in the state. Cumulatively, these falls account for a yearly average of eighty-two deaths and eighteen hundred hospitalizations, representing a total of over \$65,000,000 per year. In addition to falls, Alzheimer's disease is on the rise in Hawaii. There is also an increasing need for senior centers and various agencies.

Further, there is an ever increasing need for long term care services. In the next twenty years, the population requiring such services will increase by almost two-thirds. Basic education and awareness about these issues, along with the topics of elder abuse and fraud, must be made available for this emerging population. Doing so will serve to both foster a healthier aging population, but also a more fiscally responsible community as a whole.

For these reasons, the HPCA supports this measure. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

HAPTA
HAWAII CHAPTER
AMERICAN PHYSICAL
THERAPY ASSOCIATION



Chair Della Au Belatti
Chair Dee Morikawa
Health/ Human Services Committee

SB964 SD2 Related to Aging
Wednesday, 3/18/2015
8:30am, Room 329

Position: SUPPORT

Chair Della Au Belatti and members of the Health Committee,
Chair Dee Morikawa and members of the Human Services Committee,
I am Ann Frost, PT, member of the Hawaii Chapter of the American Physical Therapy Association. We represent physical therapists and physical therapist assistants who provide rehabilitation services to Hawaii's people, from the young to the elderly, for problems ranging from sprains and strains to stroke to balance and gait.

We stand in support of SB964 SD2. Hawaii has made progress in establishing procedures and processes to help our kupuna age well. Hawaii's Statewide Task Force on Falls Prevention and Hawaii's Injury Prevention Plan have identified and created ways to meet some of the many challenges which our kupuna face.

The physical therapy community regularly provides care to kupuna who have suffered falls, and we recognize that the measures we can take to facilitate safe mobility, well-being, and quality of life help not only our seniors but also our community.

SB964 SD2 addresses the means by which to continue caring for our kupuna in effective ways.

Ann Frost,
Legislative Committee
Hawaii Chapter of the American Physical Therapy Association

Gregg Pacillio,
President
Hawaii Chapter of the American Physical Therapy Association

TO: HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair
Representative Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES
Representative Dee Morikawa , Chair
Representative Bertrand Kobayashi,, Vice-Chair

FROM: Eldon L. Wegner, Ph.D.
Advocacy Chair, Hawaii Family Caregiver Coalition

HEARING: 8:30 am Wednesday, March 18, 2015
Conference Room 329, Hawaii State Capitol

SUBJECT: SB 964 SD 2 Relating to Aging

POSITION: **The Hawaii Family Caregiver Coalition supports SB 964 SD 2** , which appropriates funds for the important public programs of the Executive Office on Aging, including the Kupuna Care services, the continued development of the ADRC's (Aging and Disabled Resource Centers), funding a Coordinator for the Alzheimer's and related dementias program, and the Healthy Aging Program. However, we believe that the original requested amounts in SB 964 be restored as these amounts have been determined by the Executive Office on Aging to be required to meet existing and expanding service needs.

RATIONALE:

The Policy Board for Elder Affairs has a statutory obligation to advocate on behalf of the senior citizens of Hawaii. While we advise the Executive Office on Aging, we do not speak on behalf of the Executive Office of Aging.

- **The Kupuna Care program** provides needed social supports and services which enable persons to be cared for in their homes and provides support to family caregivers. The program enables frail elders to be cared for at home and there will be a growing need for the services. The program reduces the need for Medicaid enrollment and expensive residential care. The program serves around 2500 persons. The requested appropriation is \$5.1 million in each FY 2016 and 2017 in addition to the base budget of \$4.2 million in each year. This request reflects a 10% increase for the following reasons: 1) the budget has been flat for a number of years, while the population in needs if growing significantly; 2) the program has expanded to cover non-elderly disabled persons, veterans, and certain Medicaid clients needing additional services; and 3) the need to increase the income to providers of services to keep up with inflation.

§ **ADRC's (Aging and Disability Resource Centers)**. The Executive Office on Aging is requesting \$1.710 Million for FY 16 and \$1.651 Million for FY 17 in addition to the EOA Base Budget in order to continued implementation of the ADRC's by the county offices on aging. ADRC's serve as **single entry centers for accessing services for the disabled and frail elderly**. These centers will greatly improve the public's ability to access needed services as well as reduce redundancy and increase coordination in services. When they become fully functional, which is currently the case with Maui county, they also qualify for

additional financial support from the federal government, including the Medicare program, the Affordable Care Act, and Medicaid and become eligible for other grants.

- \$ Funding for a permanent **Coordinator of the Alzheimer's and Related Dementias Program**. The Executive Office of Aging is requesting \$23,700 for FY 16 and \$47,400 for FY 17. The first year is half salary, as it will take about six months to establish, recruit, and fill the position. The Coordinator will implement the recommendations from the taskforce and in the strategic plan which was developed in 2014.
- \$ **Healthy Aging Partnership Program**. The program is a joint effort by the EOA, County offices on Aging, non-profit senior services providers, and the University of Hawaii. It offers two evidence-based programs:
 - 1) **Better Choices, Better Health (Ke Ola Pono –Healthy Living)** is a nationally-acclaimed Chronic Disease Self Management Program designed for people with chronic diseases to better manage their symptoms and improve their overall health , enrolling people with diabetes, heart diseases, arthritis, hypertension, and other chronic conditions.
 - 2) **Enhance Fitness** is a group exercise program and complements the Better Choices, Better Health workshops.

Evaluation research conducted by the University of Hawaii at Manoa Center on Aging shows that the Healthy Aging Partnership program reduced hospital stays, emergency room use, and falls among the frail elderly and increased physical functioning, thus resulting in substantial reductions health care costs.

The programs funded through SB 964 are the heart of our efforts to address the many needs of our vulnerable senior population, who face many challenges in their older years. The proportion of our budget which is devoted to these worthy services is relatively small, but in most instances has the potential to actually save on potential costs as well as assure a quality of life to our vulnerable citizens.

Thank you for allowing me to testify on this bill.

creagan1 - Dannah

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 6:52 AM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: csmorimoto@aol.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB964 on Mar 18, 2015 08:30AM*

SB964

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for HLT/HUS on Mar 18, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Curt S. Morimoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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TO:

Della Au Belatti, Chair
Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair
Committee on Health

Dee Morikawa, Chair
Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services

FROM: Krystle Rasos
University of Hawaii at Manoa
1460C Pukele Ave, Honolulu, HI 96816

HEARING: Wednesday, March 18, 2015; 8:30am

SUPPORT SB964 SD2, RELATING TO AGING

My name is Krystle Rasos; student at University of Hawaii at Manoa School of Social Work. I am testifying in support of SB964 SD2 in appropriating funds for: the Kupuna care program and an aging and disability center, the Alzheimer's Disease and related Dementia services coordinator position, fall prevention and early detection services for the elderly, the healthy aging partnership program of the department of health's executive office of aging, and to establish an Alzheimer's Disease and related Dementia public awareness campaign.

I am currently in the masters of social work program specializing in gerontology, with over five years of employment and practicum experience with the older adult population. I am testifying to advocate for our Kupunas; that they are offered necessary programs and services that maintain their independence in their own homes and in the community.

Many of us are aware that by 2030, there be more than one fourth of an increase of people aged 60 and older in Hawaii. Therefore, the older adult population will need as many resources and services to help preserve their quality of life and autonomy. I believe that by supporting this bill, the older adult population will continue to spread their cultural knowledge in our communities.

Please support SB964 SD2 for the appropriating funds that enhance and support the health and well-being of older adults in our community.

To: Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Chair
Senator Josh Green, Chair
Members, Committee on Human Services and Housing
Members, Committee on Health

From: Marie Alimbuyao
Jimberly Valenzuela
Hawaii Pacific University
Kaneohe, HI. 96744

March 15, 2015

Testimony in favor of SB 964

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. We strongly support Senate Bill 964 Relating to funding for the Kupuna Care Program, the Aging and Resource Center (ADRC), and long-term education and awareness on Alzheimer's Disease.

The need for health care for older adults is increasing as the population continues to grow and baby boomers are living longer. The aging population is expected to increase from 40 million to 81 million who are over the age of 65 by 2040. One of the most leading causes of hospitalizations are falls that causes hip fractures, and requiring post-discharge care by families or paid caregivers. The Kupuna Care Program provides home care services and respite for family caregivers for seniors who are non-Medicaid eligible to empower seniors to age in place and to prevent costly institutionalization.

Furthermore, seniors with cognitive impairment require more assistance at home. Currently, there are approximately 4 million seniors that are diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease and projected to double the number by 2030. Caregiver burnout is most common due to the following reasons: unpreparedness, limited support, feeling abandoned, long-hours, exhaustion, and few standard options. Funding for education on Alzheimer's disease and home care services is essential in today's society to increase awareness and maintain the quality of life of our kupuna's and caregivers.

We greatly appreciate the opportunity to testify in support of SB 964.

creagan1 - Dannah

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 11:12 AM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: mauicrowe@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB964 on Mar 18, 2015 08:30AM

SB964

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for HLT/HUS on Mar 18, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
james crowe	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Support the \$5.1 million increase. It is imperative that Hawaii's Kupuna be respected by meaningful support. Consider their social, personal contributions to the citizens of our State. My wife and I both are seniors and have been caregivers of each-other. We understand the need for financial support for Kupuna services.

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creagan1 - Dannah

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 12:58 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: ecmaui@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB964 on Mar 18, 2015 08:30AM

SB964

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for HLT/HUS on Mar 18, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
ELEANORE CROWE	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support 5.1 million dollar increase. Kapuna here in Hawaii are in desperate need of this service. In the past decade, the number of senior citizens has increased by 70,000.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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Aloha Chair Chun Oakland and members of Human Services and Housing committee.

I am a retired Child Welfare social worker and active in AARP, Kokua Council and HARA.

I am urging your STRONG SUPPORT of SB964.

This bill will fund Kupuna Care which enables seniors to remain in their own homes and maintain lives of independence and dignity. The ADRC is the one-stop shop which can connect seniors and disabled individuals to necessary services, again with the goals of maintaining dignity and independence.

Funding for these programs has not increased for many years despite a substantial projected increase in the numbers of seniors in Hawaii and, likewise, an increase in the numbers of seniors who may benefit.

Thank you for allowing me to testify and for your STRONG SUPPORT of this necessary legislation.

Barbara J. Service

Kahala

19th District

9th Senatorial District

To: House Committees on Health and Human Services

Date: Wednesday, March 18, 2015, 8:30 a.m.

Place: Conference Room 329

Re: SB 964, S.D.2 Relating to Aging

Honorable Della Su Belatti, and Dee Morikawa, Chairpersons, and
Committee members,

My name is Esther Ueda, and I am writing to request your support of SB
964, S.D.2 Relating to Aging.

I feel it is very important to support the various Kupuna Care Programs. I
have been a Meals on Wheels volunteer and delivered meals to the
elderly for 15 years, and I know how important these types of services are
to the elderly who may be homebound, have little family support, or have
working children who need help in providing care services
for their parents.

Please support SB964, S.D.2.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Esther Ueda
Pearl City, Hawaii

From: Gertrude Hara <gertiehara@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 3:48 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Subject: SB 964, S.D. 2, Relating to Aging (Kupuna Care Funding)

Date : Monday, March 16th at 3:30 PM

Chair Chun Oakland Green and Committee members

This is a great opportunity for me and to email my written testimony regarding the above subject. In allowing us who feel this is necessary to submit. My name is Gertrude Hara-Williams and I'm 67 years old. I'm retired and live in the Kakaako area. This bill is of great importance:

For Kupuna Care is very much needed since our baby boomers, elders in kupuna age as well as those over 80. Most of those mentioned, as grown and tremendous risk has been reached in this program.

In taking necessary measures, for those seniors its a matter of funding.

We will need extra support in the near future to please provide additional funding and services for Hawai'i growing population group of residences.

In closing I encourage and urge your support by voting yes on this bill SB 964, S.D. 2.

Gertrude Hara-Williams, Volunteer
Kokua Council for Senior Citizens
AARP Chapter 60, Waikiki

SB 964 SD2 Relating to Aging (Kupuna Care Funding)

I am writing to express my support for SB 964, to increase funding for Kupuna Care. My name is Roberta Wong Murray and I am a fulltime primary caregiver for my husband, Mark, who has ALS. We reside in Kailua Kona on Hawaii Island.

Last year, we were made aware of Kupuna Care through an AARP Presentation on caregiving. I made contact with a public health nurse who came to our home to interview my husband and me. She helped us to obtain a Kupuna Care grant which provided short term services. For someone with ALS, fall prevention is crucial. To make our living area safer, Kupuna Care provided grab bars to put in our shower and bathrooms, a four-pronged cane to assist with walking and an elevated toilet seat. Kupuna Care also provided a housekeeper for four hours a week for a three-month period, to give me caregiver respite and a much-needed break from day-to-day chores.

There must be many others in our situation who could benefit from the services provided through Kupuna Care. They are people like my husband who has a life-limiting illness and me, his primary caregiver, who do not have extended family or a support network in proximity, who do not qualify for Medicaid yet cannot afford to pay out-of-pocket for fulltime caregiver services.

Please pass SB 964.

Sincerely,

Roberta Wong Murray

creagan1 - Dannah

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 4:22 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: sburley@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB964 on Mar 18, 2015 08:30AM

SB964

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for HLT/HUS on Mar 18, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stewart Burley	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please pass SB964. Help Hawaii seniors live a more pleasant and relaxed life in their own home around their own family. Our population is rising and getting older. We need more home based services, so I ask that you pass SB964. Mahalo! Stu

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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Valerie Yontz 677 Auwina Street Kailua, HI 96734

**Testimony in SUPPORT of SB 964, SD2
Relating to Aging
For House Committee on Health and House Committee on Human Services
Wednesday, March 18, 2015, 8:30 a.m., Conference Room 329**

To: The Honorable Representative Della Au Bellati, Chair
Committee on Health, and
Representative Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair

And to: The Honorable Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair
Committee on Human Services, and
Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

House of Representatives, The Twenty-Eighth Legislature, 2015

March 16, 2015

Dear Representatives and Committee Members,

I am submitting testimony in support of SB 964 SD 2, relating to Part II, Sections 4 and 5, and calling for an Alzheimer's Disease & Related Dementias (ADRD) coordinator to be established within the executive office on aging.

This coordinator is essential to the move the Alzheimer's state strategic plan forward with positive outputs and outcomes for Brain Health and well-established Memory Clinics throughout the state.

Please support passage of SB 964 SD2. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Valerie Yontz

TO: Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair
Committee on Health

Rep. Dee Morikawa, Chair
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services

DATE: Wednesday, March 18, 2015 (8:30 a.m., Room 329)

RE: **IN SUPPORT of SB 964, SD2, Relating to Aging**

I am 88 years old and receive Transportation Services. I urge you to provide funding for Kupuna Care services and to make sure that these vital services can be provided for Kupuna, like me, so we can remain independent in our homes for as long as possible.

Transportation Services are important to me because:

They take me to Lanikila Senior Center,
Doctor's Appointments, marketing, etc

Please support Kupuna Care funding for all Kupuna who wish to remain in the community and avoid costly (and unwanted) institutional care! Mahalo.

Print Name: Alia Kiy. Sasaki

City & Zip Code: Honolulu, Hawaii 96826

TO: Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair
Committee on Health

Rep. Dee Morikawa, Chair
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services

DATE: Wednesday, March 18, 2015 (8:30 a.m., Room 329)

RE: **IN SUPPORT of SB 964, SD2, Relating to Aging**

I am 86 years old and receive Transportation Services. I urge you to provide funding for Kupuna Care services and to make sure that these vital services can be provided for Kupuna, like me, so we can remain independent in our homes for as long as possible.

Transportation Services are important to me because:

I cannot walk too far because I have shortness of breath. I must walk slowly

Please support Kupuna Care funding for all Kupuna who wish to remain in the community and avoid costly (and unwanted) institutional care! Mahalo.

Print Name: Ann Kinoshita

City & Zip Code: Honolulu, HI 96817

March 16, 2015

House Committee on Health
Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair

House Committee on Human Services
Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair

RE: SB 964 S.D. 2, RELATING TO AGING

Most distinguished Chairs Belatti and Morikawa and Members of the Committees:

I STRONGLY SUPPORT SB 964 S.D.2

AND request the Committees of Health and Human Services recommend the restoration of the annual supplemental funding for the support of Kupuna Care.

These facts of Senior Living in Hawaii are constant :

- Hawaii's life expectancy is longer than any other state**
- Assisted-Living care costs increase annually
- Current family-caregivers are retiring, and their replacements are not available in equal number

The most-valued (\$\$) segment of Hawaii's population supporting senior care has always been a family-member caregiver. Statistics from 2009 show the annual economic value in Hawaii to be: \$1.9 Billion. (See The Council of State Governments Knowledge Center**)

The facts are verified.

There is a real need to increase the amount of funds for Kupuna Care.

Please vote affirmatively on this bill.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Olah

P.O.Box 3294

Honolulu, HI 96814

*As noted in Forbes: "Seniors in Hawaii live longer past the age of 65 than in any other state in the nation," according to MoneyRate. The pleasant climate might help. The downside: Hawaii also has the highest cost of living in the U.S."

<http://www.forbes.com/pictures/eehd45eejif/best-state-for-retirement-hawaii/>

**The Council of State Governments Knowledge Center

table a: number of caregivers and the Economic value of caregiving, by State, 2009

<http://knowledgecenter.csg.org/kc/system/files/kassnertablea.pdf>

TO: Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair
Committee on Health

Rep. Dee Morikawa, Chair
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services

DATE: Wednesday, March 18, 2015 (8:30 a.m., Room 329)

RE: **IN SUPPORT of SB 964, SD2, Relating to Aging**

I am 81 years old and receive Transportation Services. I urge you to provide funding for Kupuna Care services and to make sure that these vital services can be provided for Kupuna, like me, so we can remain independent in our homes for as long as possible.

Transportation Services are important to me because:

*I'm not able to drive +
ride public bus to take me to my
doctor's appt.*

Please support Kupuna Care funding for all Kupuna who wish to remain in the community and avoid costly (and unwanted) institutional care! Mahalo.

Print Name: Christopher S. Sasaki

City & Zip Code: Honolulu, HI 96818

The Twenty-Eighth Legislature
Regular Session of 2015

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Committee on Health

Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair

Rep. Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair

Committee on Human Services

Rep. Dee Morikawa, Chair

Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

State Capitol, Conference Room 329
Wednesday, March 18, 2015; 8:30 a.m.

**STATEMENT OF THE ILWU LOCAL 142 ON S.B. 964, SD2
RELATING TO AGING**

The ILWU Local 142 strongly supports S.B. 964, SD2, which appropriates funds or facilitates programs and positions for: Kupuna Care; the Aging and Disability Resource Center; an Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia services coordinator; falls prevention and early detection services; the Healthy Aging Partnership; and an Alzheimer's and dementia public awareness campaign.

The need for all of these services and programs is well-documented. Hawaii's population is aging and the "silver tsunami" will soon be upon us.

Kupuna Care provides home-delivered meals, bathing and chore services, transportation, and case management to help seniors avoid costly institutionalization and keep them living in their own homes. The Healthy Aging Partnership assists participants to engage in education and activities to stay healthy.

Alzheimer's Disease, dementia, and falls are extremely costly. The cost of care for patients with Alzheimer's and dementia and for those who have fallen are astronomical in terms of dollars as well as emotional and physical costs for both the caregiver and receiver of care. Hundreds of thousands of hours are spent each day by caregivers providing services to care for these patients. The impact of Alzheimer's Disease and dementia can be mitigated with medical treatment and medication for the patient and information and education for the family. A dedicated coordinator to provide information and resource referrals can help families cope with the ongoing stress and strain of caring for family members with Alzheimer's or dementia. Similarly, the falls prevention coordinator funded last year must be maintained to help provide a coordinated response to the problem of elderly people falling and the avalanche of costs for hospitalization, rehabilitation, and long-term care.

The Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC) are well on their way to being a "one-stop center" for information and referral services for those needing care and for their families. Additional funding is needed to make the system of ADRCs operational on all islands, particularly on Oahu where the population and the need is the greatest.

The ILWU strongly urges passage of S.B. 964, SD2. Thank you for considering our testimony.



PROTECTING HAWAII'S OHANA, CHILDREN, UNDER SERVED, ELDERLY AND DISABLED

Board of Directors

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Carol Morimoto
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Alan Shinn*

TO: Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair
Representative Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair
Members, House Committee on Health

Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair
Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair
Members, House Committee on Human Services

FROM: Scott Morishige, MSW
Executive Director, PHOCUSED

HEARING: **Wednesday, March 18, 2015 at 8:30 a.m. in Conf. Rm. 329**

Testimony in Support of SB964 SD2, Relating to Aging

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony **in support** of SB964 SD2 which would appropriate funds for a long-term care education and awareness campaign, the Kupuna Care program and the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC). PHOCUSED is a statewide coalition of health, housing, and human services organizations committed to strengthening policies and programs that benefit the marginalized and underserved in Hawaii.

Hawaii's population of older adults – our kupuna aged 60 and older – has grown rapidly, and is expected to continue increasing significantly over the next 20 years. With the first group of baby boomers entering this age-phase, the dynamic of our kupuna population is changing. Today's older adults are healthier and more active; they are engaged in social and community activities, and with the proper supports they can maintain this independence and higher quality of living.

The range of services and programs funded for this bill will provide crucial education, wellness, case management, nutrition, fitness, transportation, healthy living, pain management and other supports that support our kupuna to live with the highest levels of independence possible.

Once again, PHOCUSED strongly supports this bill, and we appreciate the opportunity to testify on this important issue. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact PHOCUSED at 521-7462 or by e-mail at admin@phocused-hawaii.org.

TO: House Committee on Health and House Committee on Human Services
DATE: March 17, 2015 for Wednesday, March 18, 2015
RE: SB 964, S.D. 2 – Relating to Aging (Kupuna Care Funding)
VIA EMAIL TO: hlttestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

Aloha Committee Members:

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to submit written testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT of SB 964, S.D. 2 - Relating to Aging (Kupuna Care Funding)**. My name is Claire Santos and I'm a registered nurse and healthcare advocate living in the Punchbowl area. The passage of this bill is vital because:

With over 277,000 people over the age of 60 in our community, the goal of Kupuna Care is to enable Hawaii seniors to lead independent, meaningful and dignified lives in their own homes and communities, rather than moving to costly nursing or group homes.

The base budget for Kupuna Care has remained relatively flat since 2002 despite the number of seniors increasing by about 70,000 people. We realistically expect that more and more seniors will have need of the home and community-based services that Kupuna Care provides, e.g. hot meals, transportation and personal care assistance.

This program is critical to Hawaii's fastest growing group of residents. It is time to take action to increase the Kupuna Care base budget by \$5.1 million to give the program needed stability and make it more effective.

As a registered nurse and former home care representative for the Medicare population, I was involved in the discharge planning process as well as the home health care assessment and planning. I believe that it is in the best interest of every aging person in Hawaii to have available the appropriate resources for a safe and stable aging process.

I urge you to support additional funding for Kupuna Care by voting **YES on SB 964, S.D. 2**.

Sincerely,

Claire P. Santos, MS, RN

TO: Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair
Committee on Health

Rep. Dee Morikawa, Chair
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services

DATE: Wednesday, March 18, 2015 (8:30 a.m., Room 329)

RE: **IN SUPPORT of SB 964, SD2, Relating to Aging**

I am 65 years old and receive Transportation Services. I urge you to provide funding for Kupuna Care services and to make sure that these vital services can be provided for Kupuna, like me, so we can remain independent in our homes for as long as possible.

Transportation Services are important to me because:

My medical condition

Please support Kupuna Care funding for all Kupuna who wish to remain in the community and avoid costly (and unwanted) institutional care! Mahalo.

Print Name: Harriet L. Mihic

City & Zip Code: Honolulu, HI 96813

March 17, 2015

TESTIMONY FROM: Tracey S. Wiltgen, Executive Director
The Mediation Center of the Pacific, Inc.

TO: Representative Della Au Bellati, Chair
Representative Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair
Committee on Health
Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair
Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services

House Committee on Health and House Committee on Human Services
Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 329

Re: **SB 964** Relating to Aging

Hearing: Wednesday, March 18, 8:30 a.m.

Dear Representatives and Committee Members,

I strongly support SB 964 SD 2, relating to Part II, Sections 4 and 5, calling for an Alzheimer's Disease & Related Dementias (ADRD) coordinator to be established within the Executive Office on Aging.

Dementia is considered a global crisis and there are currently 31,000 individuals aged 65+ in Hawai'i who have ADRD. This is a conservative estimate because there are likely more individuals with memory loss who have not been formally diagnosed. The increasing number of elderly and individuals with ADRD is having a marked impact on Hawaii's health care systems, caregivers and families. Hawaii's high cost of living and limited resources to support the older population together create huge strains on families and other members of Hawaii's communities.

To address this growing crisis, over the past four years, Hawaii's Executive Office on Aging has made significant progress in bringing together healthcare and other professionals involved with the aging population, to create a State Plan on ADRD. The plan focuses on building a dementia capable community in Hawaii through multiple initiatives such as: early and accurate diagnosis of dementia, improved treatment, support for family caregivers, improved healthcare delivery systems and expanded community based housing, financial and legal services that are affordable and accessible to all. This critical plan could not have been created without the integral support, leadership and coordination provided by the Executive Office on Aging.

To implement the Plan, the ADRD Coordinator position in the Executive Office on Aging is critical. The person in this position will ensure that the many experts, healthcare professionals and community stakeholders who are needed to achieve the goals and outcomes of the Plan, are brought together and provided with the support needed to move the initiatives forward. The Plan is a living document that will need to be continually revised and updated.

ADRD touch the lives of so many in Hawaii, that it is a community responsibility to make our infrastructure, healthcare systems, and neighborhoods dementia capable and dementia friendly. The ADRD Coordinator position in the Executive Office on Aging will enable all of us to achieve this vision.

I urge you to support passage of SB 964 SD2. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tracey S. Wiltgen', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Tracey S. Wiltgen
Executive Director

TO: Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair
Committee on Health

Rep. Dee Morikawa, Chair
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services

DATE: Wednesday, March 18, 2015 (8:30 a.m., Room 329)

RE: IN SUPPORT of SB 964, SD2, Relating to Aging

I am 90 years old and receive Transportation Services. I urge you to provide funding for Kupuna Care services and to make sure that these vital services can be provided for Kupuna, like me, so we can remain independent in our homes for as long as possible.

Transportation Services are important to me because:

We have no one to rely on. We are getting frail & this transportation is most gratifying. At this point we are most satisfied with your services. Thank you.

Please support Kupuna Care funding for all Kupuna who wish to remain in the community and avoid costly (and unwanted) institutional care! Mahalo.

Print Name: Clara Murasaki

City & Zip Code: Honolulu, HI 96816

TO: Committee on Health
Representative Della Au Belatti Chair
Representative Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair
Members of Committee on Health

Committee on Human Services
Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair
Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair
Members of Committee on Human Services

DATE: Thursday, March 18, 2015
PLACE: Conference Room 329
TIME: 8:30am
SUBJECT: Testimony in support of SB 964 SD 2 –Relating to Aging

Chair Belatti and Morikawa and Members of Committee on Health and Committee on Human Services;

Thank you for the opportunity to submit a written testimony in FULL AND STRONG
SUPPORT of SB 964 SD 2 – Relating to Aging.

As Administrator of Project Dana, a volunteer caregivers program serving Hawaii's older adults for 25years, I am in strong support of SB 964 SD 2 which promotes aging in place in Hawaii's community.

SB 964 SD 2 Relating to Aging: Funding for Kupuna Care program, Aging and Disability Resource Center, Alzheimer's disease and related dementia services coordinator, fall prevention and early detection services for the elderly, healthy aging programs, and Alzheimer's disease and related dementia public awareness campaign are necessary to allow older adults to live independently.

Please support SB 964 SD 2 – Relating to Aging.

Thank you very much.

Rose Nakamura
Project Dana

TO: Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair
Committee on Health

Rep. Dee Morikawa, Chair
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services

DATE: Wednesday, March 18, 2015 (8:30 a.m., Room 329)

RE: **IN SUPPORT of SB 964, SD2, Relating to Aging**

I am 89 years old and receive Transportation Services. I urge you to provide funding for Kupuna Care services and to make sure that these vital services can be provided for Kupuna, like me, so we can remain independent in our homes for as long as possible.

Transportation Services are important to me because:

I need to go to the doctor

Please support Kupuna Care funding for all Kupuna who wish to remain in the community and avoid costly (and unwanted) institutional care! Mahalo.

Print Name: Eleanor Kashiwada

City & Zip Code: Honolulu, HI 96813

TO: Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair
Committee on Health

Rep. Dee Morikawa, Chair
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services

DATE: Wednesday, March 18, 2015 (8:30 a.m., Room 329)

RE: **IN SUPPORT of SB 964, SD2, Relating to Aging**

I am 86 years old and receive Transportation Services. I urge you to provide funding for Kupuna Care services and to make sure that these vital services can be provided for Kupuna, like me, so we can remain independent in our homes for as long as possible.

Transportation Services are important to me because:

THEY TAKE ME TO LANAKILA FOR MY CLASSES. I DON'T
DRIVE AND NO TRANSPORTATION. I GO TO THE LANAKILA
CENTER TO KEEP ME HEALTHY AND GOING.

Please support Kupuna Care funding for all Kupuna who wish to remain in the community and avoid costly (and unwanted) institutional care! Mahalo.

Print Name: GEORGE K. TANOMYE

City & Zip Code: Honolulu Hi. 96817

*Florentina Reyes-Salvail, M.Sc.
1002A Prospect St. Apt #7
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822*

**Testimony in SUPPORT of SB 964, SD2
Relating to Aging
For House Committee on Health and House Committee on Human Services
Wednesday, March 18, 2015, 8:30 a.m., Conference Room 329**

To: The Honorable Representative Della Au Bellati, Chair
Committee on Health, and
Representative Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair

And to: The Honorable Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair
Committee on Human Services, and
Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

House of Representatives, The Twenty-Eighth Legislature, 2015

March 16, 2015

Dear Representatives and Committee Members,

I am in support of SB 964 SD 2, relating to Part II, Sections 4 and 5, requesting for an Alzheimer's Disease & Related Dementias (ADRD) coordinator to be established within the executive office on aging.

Our state population is growing old. Taking into consideration the population 18 years and older, the percentage of 65 years and older grew at an accelerated pace from an estimated annual growth of less than one percent for years 2000 to 2010 to an annual growth of more than two percent for years 2010 to 2014. In addition, about 28% of adults 65 years and older live alone. Dementia, Alzheimer or other forms of memory lost and cognitive impairment are more likely to occur among this elderly population. It is important that our state is well-prepared in meeting the impending crisis. Just as a symphony orchestra needs a conductor for harmonious and melodious rendition of symphonic music, so is the prevention and delivery of services for the population already have or at risk of having Alzheimer, dementia and other related memory loss conditions also needs a coordinator. The establishment of Alzheimer & Related Dementia Coordinator in the Executive Office of Aging is essential to prepare, update and tie together cohesive plan, coordinate efforts, infrastructure and needs assessment amongst various agencies providing elderly services specializing in dementia/Alzheimer population and in the prevention of such memory disease(s). Please support passage of SB 964 SD2. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Florentina Reyes-Salvail

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair

Rep. Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

Rep. Dee Morikawa, Chair

Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

DATE: Wednesday, March 18, 2015

TIME: 8:30 AM

PLACE: Conference Room 329

Aloha,

On behalf of our kupuna, please support passage of SB 964 SD2.

In particular, we are in strong support of Part 3, the \$32,000 appropriation for fall prevention and early detection which will support the statewide approach to prevent and reduce the impact of falls among older adults.

Almost every hour, 24 hours a day in our Hawaii, a senior is transported by ambulance to an Emergency Room for a fall injury. That is over 8,050 per year. That is too many. The impact on our medical system is stifling and the pain and suffering is staggering.

The early detection aspect is for expanding the awareness and use of electronic alarm devices that allow seniors to notify emergency services that they have fallen and need assistance or in some instances, the devices can do it for them, if they are incapacitated by the fall injury. Early detection can save lives.

Please support passage of SB 964 SD2.

Sincerely,

Valerie Yontz

677 Auwina Street
Kailua, HI 96734-3430
Phone: 808-259-1967
vyontz@hawaii.edu

TO: Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair
Committee on Health

Rep. Dee Morikawa, Chair
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services

DATE: Wednesday, March 18, 2015 (8:30 a.m., Room 329)

RE: **IN SUPPORT of SB 964, SD2, Relating to Aging**

I am 89 years old and receive Transportation Services. I urge you to provide funding for Kupuna Care services and to make sure that these vital services can be provided for Kupuna, like me, so we can remain independent in our homes for as long as possible.

Transportation Services are important to me because:

*I cannot drive a car and have no means
of getting to visit my husband @ Leahi
Hospital.*

Please support Kupuna Care funding for all Kupuna who wish to remain in the community and avoid costly (and unwanted) institutional care! Mahalo.

Print Name: HILDA M. REMEDIO

City & Zip Code: Honolulu HI 96825

Jose Acosta
2814 Kalawao Street
Honolulu, HI 96822
jracosta@hawaii.edu

17 March 2015

To: Senate Committee on Human Services and Housing Senator Suzanne Chun
Oakland, Chair Senate Committee on Health Senator Josh Green

From: Jose R. Acosta

RE: SB 964, Relating to Aging.

Chairwoman Chun Oakland, Chairman Green and members of the Senate Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB964. As a student of University of Hawaii School of Social Work, I am pleased to extend my full support for Senate Bill 964, which provides funding for the Kūpuna Care Program, the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC), the Healthy Aging Partnership and an education and public awareness campaign on Alzheimer's Disease.

Many of the programs and authorizations in this bill are important to helping our seniors age in place. I am currently a student intern at the Executive Office of Aging. My educational experience in this agency has increased my awareness on the difficulties our elderly and their families face in our community. The approved bill would benefit elders, their family and the community by providing information on Alzheimer's Disease and guidance on social services available in the community.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

/S/

Jose R. Acosta

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair

Rep. Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

Rep. Dee Morikawa, Chair

Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

DATE: Wednesday, March 18, 2015

TIME: 8:30 AM

PLACE: Conference Room 329

Aloha,

On behalf of our kupuna, please support passage of SB 964 SD2.

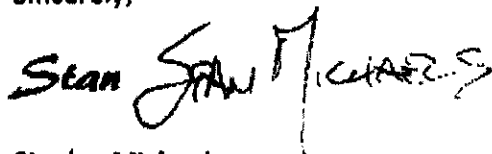
In particular, we are in strong support of Part 3, a \$\$yet to be determined appropriation for fall prevention and early detection which will support the statewide approach to prevent and reduce the impact of falls among older adults.

Almost every hour, 24 hours a day in our Hawaii, a senior is transported by ambulance to an Emergency Room for a fall injury. That is over 8,050 per year. That is too many. The impact on our medical system is stifling and the pain and suffering is staggering.

The early detection aspect is for expanding the awareness and use of electronic alarm devices that allow seniors to notify emergency services that they have fallen and need assistance or in some instances, the devices can do it for them, if they are incapacitated by the fall injury. Early detection can save lives.

Please support passage of SB 964 SD2.

Sincerely,



Stanley Michaels

225 Kaiulani Ave. #602

Honolulu, HI 96815

(808) 230-6675

Age 73

TO: Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair
Committee on Health

Rep. Dee Morikawa, Chair
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services

DATE: Wednesday, March 18, 2015 (8:30 a.m., Room 329)

RE: IN SUPPORT of SB 964, SD2, Relating to Aging

I am 84 years old and receive Transportation Services. I urge you to provide funding for Kupuna Care services and to make sure that these vital services can be provided for Kupuna, like me, so we can remain independent in our homes for as long as possible.

Transportation Services are important to me because:

dialysis

Please support Kupuna Care funding for all Kupuna who wish to remain in the community and avoid costly (and unwanted) institutional care! Mahalo.

Print Name: SOONOK KIM

City & Zip Code: Honolulu, HI 96822

Testimony in SUPPORT of SB 964, SD2
Relating to Aging
For House Committee on Health and House Committee on Human Services
Wednesday, March 18, 2015, 8:30 a.m., Conference Room 329

To: The Honorable Representative Della Au Bellati, Chair
Committee on Health, and
Representative Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair

And to: The Honorable Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair
Committee on Human Services, and
Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

House of Representatives, The Twenty-Eighth Legislature, 2015

March 16, 2015

Dear Representatives and Committee Members,

I am in support of SB 964 SD 2, relating to Part II, Sections 4 and 5, requesting for an Alzheimer's Disease & Related Dementias (ADRD) coordinator to be established within the executive office on aging. Our population is aging faster than on the mainland. We need coordinated and informed responses to provide needed resources to equip our population to access data resources for baseline and continuing estimates of disease prevalence but also educate our older population on how best to prevent aging related conditions.

Please support passage of SB 964 SD2. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Kromer Baker, Ph.D., M.S.

From: Marv and Michele Paularena <marvshel@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 8:40 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Subject: SB 964

We really need the funding for Kupuna Care to be increased. The number of seniors who need help in Maui County is increasing. Most of these seniors wish to remain at home. Kupuna Care allows them to do so. My husband Marv was able to remain at home an extra year due to the help we received from Kupuna Care. The aides who came to our home helped him with activities of daily living. It was very helpful.

Mahalo,
Michele Paularena
Kahului

TO: Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair
Committee on Health

Rep. Dee Morikawa, Chair
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services

DATE: Wednesday, March 18, 2015 (8:30 a.m., Room 329)

RE: **IN SUPPORT of SB 964, SD2, Relating to Aging**

I am 89 years old and receive Transportation Services. I urge you to provide funding for Kupuna Care services and to make sure that these vital services can be provided for Kupuna, like me, so we can remain independent in our homes for as long as possible.

Transportation Services are important to me because:

There is a way for me to get home from Lanakila activities. The Lanakila activities are a very important part of our life to keep active and healthy.

Please support Kupuna Care funding for all Kupuna who wish to remain in the community and avoid costly (and unwanted) institutional care! Mahalo.

Print Name: Sally Shimabukuro

City & Zip Code: Honolulu HI 96817

TO: Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair
Committee on Health

Rep. Dee Morikawa, Chair
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services

DATE: Wednesday, March 18, 2015 (8:30 a.m., Room 329)

RE: **IN SUPPORT of SB 964, SD2, Relating to Aging**

I am 96 years old and receive Transportation Services. I urge you to provide funding for Kupuna Care services and to make sure that these vital services can be provided for Kupuna, like me, so we can remain independent in our homes for as long as possible.

Transportation Services are important to me because:

*I don't have reliable
transportation. I appreciate
CC Transportation service very
much.*

Please support Kupuna Care funding for all Kupuna who wish to remain in the community and avoid costly (and unwanted) institutional care! Mahalo.

Print Name: Shizue Kakazu

City & Zip Code: Honolulu, 96818

March 16, 2015

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair
Representative Richard Creagan, Vice Chair

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES
Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair
Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

DATE: Wednesday, March 18, 2015

TIME: 8:30 am

PLACE: House Conference Room 329, State Capitol

RE: Strong Support of SB 964 - SD2 – Relating to Aging

Dear Representative Au Belatti, Representative Morikawa & House Committee Members,

Thank you for this opportunity to submit a testimony in strong support of SB 964 – SD2. I am a University of Hawaii Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work graduate student, a family caregiver to my 95-year-old grandmother, and intern/volunteer at Catholic Charities Hawaii and Project Dana. SB 964 – SD2 supports the independence and well-being of our seniors and their families by appropriating funds to essential senior agencies and services. Although all parts of the bill are imperative, my support for this bill is specifically for Part I: Kupuna Care appropriations and Part V: Alzheimer’s disease and related dementia (ADRD) public awareness campaign.

Without appropriations to Kupuna Care services, seniors and their families will have less access to home- and community-based services that promotes independence and allows them to age-in-place. Seniors are in need of transportation services so they are able to get out into the community and stay active. They are in need of home-delivered meals, so they are able to have nutritious and affordable hot meals delivered right to their home. Seniors benefit from volunteers and personal care assistants who provide companionship and respite for their family caregivers. Most importantly, seniors will have access to case management, in which their person-centered needs are assessed and a care plan is implemented to provide quality care for

their future. The main goal is to ensure our seniors are able to stay as independent as possible, in which Kupuna Care greatly supports.

Appropriated funds designated for an ADRD awareness campaign to family caregivers of seniors with dementia is also a priority. Too many families are unaware and ill-prepared should their elder loved one become cognitively impaired. My grandmother was diagnosed with AD ten years ago and during that time my family and I did not know what AD was and how to deal with her inevitable cognitive decline. Public awareness is important for Hawaii's community because it educates people about ADRD, its effects, and how to provide quality care to the senior with dementia as well as self-care for the caregiver.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify. Please consider passing SB 964 - SD2 for a community where our seniors are able to age-in-place and families are accessible to resources and services to care for our seniors.

Sincerely,

Sherry Tanaka
1457 Kalaepohaku Street
Honolulu, HI 96816